

# **EASTERN** $\exists \vdash \bigcirc \mid ($

## **Vision for North Carolina**

Rich in history, eastern North Carolina is considered a center of agriculture, generating a total income of \$6.7 billion in the region annually. The area also boasts a robust military presence, supporting an economic impact of \$48 billion and 540,000 military-related jobs each year.

While trying to support those economic drivers, the eastern region faces multiple challenges. The area's rivers, streams and wetlands make it difficult to design and build a safe, efficient transportation network. The region also struggles to complete "last-mile infrastructure" around the Global TransPark to attract and retain businesses. Unless we invest in the solutions listed below, the region will miss opportunities to take advantage of manufacturing jobs returning to the United States, respond to changing agricultural demands and better support military readiness.

## **INVESTING IN SOLUTIONS**



*Improve Highway to Hampton Roads*• Request future interstate designation for the section of U.S. 64/U.S. 17 connecting to Hampton Roads, Va., and complete improvements that bring this section of roadway to interstate standards.



### Strengthen Military Connections

- $\circ$  Improve highway and rail connections between bases and to ports of embarkation and debarkation.
- Improve highway connections between bases and regional healthcare and education centers.





- o Improve U.S. 70 to interstate standards to enhance freight movement and reduce travel time through the
- Support economically competitive rail access to the GTP and the Port of Morehead City.



## *Improve I-95 Connections*

o Improve connections to the I-95 corridor from rail and seaports to serve markets throughout the eastern United States.

